



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 17, 2004  
VOL. 51 NO. 101

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady to at times barely steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to mostly moderate, instances good where features were a factor. Supplies ranged closely balanced to available, mostly adequate to available. Breaking stock offerings were generally sufficient for the light to moderate demand. Light type hens were usually adequate for the mostly moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were noted as normal to reduced.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG** Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to at times barely steady. Retail demand ranged light to at times very good in areas where features were a driving factor. Loose egg sales were at times slow to mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for current needs.

			IA-MN-WI	Prices paid to producers.	Range	Mostly
EXTRA LARGE	64-74	65-71				
LARGE	63-73	64-67				
MEDIUM	32-42	34-37				
			LARGE	47-55	50	
			MEDIUM	16-21	19	
			SMALL	4-6		

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG** Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was about steady entering the weekend. Demand into all outlets was light to fairly good, best where features were in progress or planned for the holiday. Supplies ranged adequate to available for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were generally adequate for a light to moderate demand. Offerings of spent hens were generally sufficient for the mostly moderate demand. Processing schedules were reported as normal to less than normal for the upcoming week.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	71-85	73-77
LARGE	66-80	71-75
MEDIUM	35-48	40-42

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG** Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was about steady. Retail demand was still somewhat mixed ranging light to fairly good. Food service movement was usually moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for current needs. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades lower. Offerings were adequate for the moderate to instances fairly good demand. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	74.5-83	76-79
LARGE	73.5-82	75-78
MEDIUM	38.5-47	40-43

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG** Prices were unchanged. Asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was about steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to occasionally fairly good, best where features a factor. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were generally adequate for the moderate to mostly light demand. Light type hens were sufficient for a usually moderate demand. Processing schedules were normal to reduced.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	66-79	73-76
LARGE	64-77	71-74
MEDIUM	37.5-45	38-42

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**NEW YORK EGGS** Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was about steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to good, mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for present trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	80-84
LARGE	78-82
MEDIUM	47-51

**CHICAGO AND MIDWEST EGGS** Prices for all sizes are unchanged. The market tone was steady. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, instances good. Supplies are adequate to closely balanced.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	71-79	73-75
LARGE	70-75	71-74
MEDIUM	41-48	42-44

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**WESTERN REGION EGG** Prices unchanged. The market tone was cautiously steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings increasingly available.

**CALIFORNIA EGGS** Prices unchanged. The market tone was cautiously steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings increased. Small benchmark price 55. Ads in Southern California: major- large 18 pack 2 for \$3; smaller outlets- extra large dozen 99, 20 pack 2 for \$3.

**CALIFORNIA** California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	116
EXTRA LARGE	114
LARGE	107
MEDIUM	75

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	98-105
EXTRA LARGE	96-102
LARGE	94-97
MEDIUM	62-65

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	249-269
EXTRA LARGE	219-289
LARGE	199-239
MEDIUM	189-205

**CENTRAL REGION BREAKING STOCK** Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades lower. Offerings were adequate and held in slightly more confident hands while demand was moderate to instances fairly good. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	26-28.5	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	12-16	13-15
CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

**EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK** Mostly prices were unchanged when compared to early week trading. However, the undertone was no better than cautiously steady as traders watch further market developments. Offerings and floorstocks were generally adequate for seasonal planned breaker schedules. Demand was seasonal, but reported as light to moderate, mostly light. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 11-Dec-2004 were 3% less than the previous week, and 6% lower than a year ago.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	23-29	26-28
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	12-18	13-16
EASTERN REGION AREA: AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

**EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 11-DEC-04**  
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,286,728	31,959	11,639	6,655	2,188	4,522
PW	1,269,751	30,795	12,016	6,592	2,177	4,313
LY	1,189,328	30,302	10,280	5,552	2,033	4,331
% CHG PW	1	4	-3	1	1	5
% CHG LY	8	5	13	20	8	4
2004	60,821,513	1,448,555	583,941	315,818	129,875	209,205
2003	57,306,078	1,411,166	515,156	280,286	111,192	204,880
% CHG YTD	6	3	13	13	17	2

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.57	42.30	42.43
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	39.05	38.91	38.79

**NATIONAL LIQUID** Pasteurized salt yolk reported at 43 to 48 cents fob with no pasteurized whites reported. Trade sentiment was steady for all liquid products. Demand for whole egg had decreased as seasonal shut downs occur at some further processing facilities while demand for whites and yolk was fairly good to good. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate for whole egg, adequate for whites and tight to short for yolk. Most observers felt that the current slowing of liquid movement was a result of normal holiday schedule reductions and not a loss of buyer interest. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower when compared to last week.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	9	26-29	26.83	-.66
WHITES	16	25.5-27	26.44	.08
YOLKS	16	49-51	50.31	.62

**EASTERN REGION FROZEN** Majority prices were unchanged on whole and salt yolk, unchanged to higher on sugar yolks, but lower on whites when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was about steady on whole and whites, and generally steady on yolks. Supplies were balanced to adequate for trade needs. Demand was seasonal but noted as usually moderate. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 11-Dec-2004 were 1% less than the previous week, and 7% less than last year.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	36-42	37-39	44-48
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		60-80
WHITES	38-44	41-44	47-52
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	55-60	56-60	63-67
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	53-57	55-57	58-65

(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.

**CENTRAL REGION FROZEN** Prices ranged unchanged to 1 cent lower for whole egg while whites ranged 1 cent lower. The balance of prices ranged unchanged. Trade sentiment was mostly steady for all frozen products at the current quoted range. Offerings were usually adequate for the fair to fairly good demand with frozen sugared yolk and whole egg in the tightest position. Most frozen processors were reducing schedules for the upcoming holidays with tentative schedules after the holiday disruption reported as normal. Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower when compared to the previous week's reported prices.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	37-41	37-39
WHITES	41-44	42-43
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	56-60	59
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	54-57	55-57

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN** Prices unchanged. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 12/11 was 6% more than the previous week. Frozen demand seasonally good with freezer stocks adequate.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	43-46
WHITES	47-50
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	63-66
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	61-64

**NATIONAL DRIED EGG** Mostly prices were unchanged on yolks and blends, unchanged to lower on whole, and lower on albumen when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to moderate, mostly moderate. Supplies were reported as adequate to available for trade needs. Trade sentiment was usually steady on yolks, about steady on whole, and irregular on albumen. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 11-Dec-2004 were 1% more than the previous week, and 8% more than last year. The total year to date dried eggs produced were 17% higher than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, trucklot & less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	1.39-1.70	MOSTLY	1.48-1.55
YOLKS	1.30-1.50	MOSTLY	1.38-1.45
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.49-3.00	MOSTLY	2.70-2.90
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.34-1.70	MOSTLY	1.40-1.45

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DEC. 10, 2004-DEC. 16, 2004

CURRENT LOADS 106.25

FUTURE LOADS 32.75

TOTAL LOADS 139.00

	SE		NE		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	49.50	53.00	50.33	52.08	51.00	50.67	28.00
GNR BR 1	—	59.25	—	—	66.00	—	7.00
GL W J	—	—	74.00	75.50	48.75	73.00	5.00
GL W XL	—	66.00	61.18	65.22	56.10	55.00	19.50
GL W LG	—	61.86	50.27	57.00	63.90	—	31.25
GL W MD	34.00	32.17	23.80	25.38	28.60	—	15.00
GL W SM	23.50	26.00	21.00	22.33	—	—	4.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	26.33	28.24	42.00
NRBS - 45	—	—	26.50	28.00	—	26.00	5.00
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	23.50	25.50	4.00
NRBS - 39	—	—	18.79	22.57	18.40	20.00	6.75

	SC		NW		SW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	—	56.25	—	—	—	65.50	9.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W J	60.00	—	—	—	—	65.00	3.00
GL W XL	52.87	66.40	—	—	—	64.11	11.25
GL W LG	51.14	66.66	—	73.00	—	62.85	23.75
GL W MD	28.26	30.73	—	—	—	32.38	8.00
NRBS - 39	17.00	18.00	—	—	20.00	21.00	1.50

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

**LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL  
WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS  
(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER  
CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged when compared to a week ago. Demand was mostly moderate with offerings of spent hens generally sufficient for current trade needs. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Opinions on removal costs were steady.

**RANGE MAJORITY**  
REMOVAL COST 5-9 7-9

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Costs of disposal were too few to report. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were reduced for the holiday week. Finished sales were seasonal. Values were expected to remain constant.

**RANGE MAJORITY**  
REMOVAL COST TOO FEW TO REPORT

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices ranged unchanged. Demand was reported as seasonally normal with offerings adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

**RANGE MAJORITY**  
REMOVAL COST 0-5 2-5

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

**SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL**

AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	75.00	73.00	41.00
SOUTHEAST	74.50	72.50	40.00
MIDWEST	68.00	65.50	35.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	77.50	76.50	41.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	73.90	72.08	39.57

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Trading was too few to report on heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was ranged fair to good for light canners; fairly good to good for heavies with most supplies being used internally. Offerings were adequate to about adequate and clearing. Processing schedules were noted as normal to less than normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady to fully steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
28-32 MAJORITY 28-30	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
29-34 MAJORITY 30-34	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

**U.S./Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection**

W/E 11-Dec-04 (PRELIMINARY)

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
Head	1,534	1,403	2,937
Last Week	1,413	1,465	2,878
Same week yr ago	1,379	1,292	2,671
To-date/2004	66,912	66,585	133,497
To-date/2003	69,458	68,675	138,133

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
Head	333	11	344
Last Week	335	0	335
Same week yr ago	241	3	244
To-date/2004	12,024	148	12,172
To-date/2003	10,584	144	10,728

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

**TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
Head	1,867	1,414	3,281
Last Week	1,748	1,465	3,213
Same week yr ago	1,620	1,295	2,915
To-date/2004	78,936	66,733	145,669
To-date/2003	80,042	68,819	148,861

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch

**Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade****U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending December 4, 2004		Year-To-Date	
TYPE	2004	2003 1/	2004 2/	2003
Liquid	705	354	18,069	16,223
Frozen	0	0	36	96
Dried	43	0	816	551
Total	748	354	18,921	16,870

**U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending December 4, 2004		Year-To-Date	
TYPE	2004	2003 1/	2004 2/	2003
Liquid	99	2	7,470	5,075
Frozen	3	88	1,519	3,604
Dried	80	32	2,113	1,211
Total	182	122	11,102	9,890

**Inspected Shell Eggs****U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending December 4, 2004		Year-To-Date	
TYPE	2004	2003 1/	2004 2/	2003
Jumbo	0	66	392	570
Extra Large	3,360	2,370	167,247	36,188
Large	4,020	6,390	337,481	136,273
Medium	2,526	1,849	117,874	62,555
Ungraded	2,940	3,330	322,421	183,392
Misc	0	0	16,790	14,222
Total	12,846	14,005	962,205	433,200

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

**COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - Selected Centers**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

		Frozen Eggs/LBS	Turkeys/LBS	Processed other Poultry/LBS
AM	12/13/04	3,677	61,434	61,183
AM	12/01/04	3,806	66,595	60,214
CHG		-129	-5161	969
PCT CHG		-3%	-8%	2%

**MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS**

W/E 11-Dec-04

Selected Consuming Centers	CW (Thousands)	LW	PERCENT CHANGE	
			LW	LY
ATLANTA	26.4	25.3	4	-8
BOSTON	3.1	3.6	-14	-21
CHICAGO	60.0	61.4	-2	-17
DETROIT	36.2	25.2	44	2
KANSAS CITY	4.2	5.2	-18	-26
LOS ANGELES	88.1	93.2	-5	-13
NEW ORLEANS	8.8	7.2	22	0
NEW YORK	31.8	30.0	6	0
ST. LOUIS	18.2	14.4	26	-15
SAN FRANCISCO	20.1	20.3	-1	-19
TOTAL	297.0	285.8	4	-11
4 WK MOVING AVG	298.2			

**COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT**

(Receipts From Producers)

W/E 11-Dec-04	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
REGIONS		PW	LY
North Atlantic	267.2	7	21
East North Central	597.6	0	6
West North Central	285.4	0	-6
South Atlantic	241.7	3	6
South Central	72	2	3
West	197.4	8	2
Total	1661.3	2	5

Matched Plants reporting

Previous week 86

Last year 85

Areas Covered: North Atlantic (ME,VT,MA,RI,CT,NH,NY,PA,NJ,MC,DE)

East North Central (WI,IL,MI,OH,IN) West North Central (IA,MN,MO,KS,SD)

South Atlantic (SC,NC,VA,GA,FL,KY) South Central (TN,AL,AR,MS,OK)

West (CA,CO,WA,OR,UT)

**NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT**

Dec 14, 2004

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS  
DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	122	120	66	45
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	114-118	112-116	59-63	38-42
MOSTLY	116-117	114-115	61-62	40-41
RHODE ISLAND	121-125	119-123	65-69	44-48
MOSTLY	121	119	65	44
VERMONT	122	120	66-69	-
MOSTLY	-	-	66	-

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